

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of media manipulation of the election. This does not serve the public interest; it serves Sinclair Broadcasting's interest.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. This documentary is not an attempt to serve the public interest. Local people want to see local news and the programming that they expect to see at regular times. Interrupting regular programming should only be done in cases of emergency or breaking news that the public should be aware of. Doing away with regular programming in order to show a program that is so obviously skewed towards the interests of one party in the election is a blatant attempt to interfere with the democratic process.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I urge you to reconsider renewing Sinclair's license. We must consider whether or not Sinclair is serving the public interest or its own interest. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Tammy Hunt  
High school teacher and lover of democracy